

Remarks

In view of the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the final office action is respectfully requested. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-2, 4, 10-12, 14, 16-21, 28, 32-33, 50-52 and 58 remain in this application. Claims 3, 5-9, 13, 15, 22-27, 29-31, 34-49 and 53-57 have been canceled.

1. Response to Request for Reconsideration

Applicant has amended the status identifier used for Claim 1 from "Previously Amended" to "previously presented".

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Again, the Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 1, 2, 4, 10-12, 14, 16-21, 28, 32, 33, 50-52 and 58 are allowed. Applicant has canceled claims 34-49 and 53 herein. Applicant retains the right to present the subject matter of claims 34-49 and claim 53 in a continuation application.

3. Conclusion

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of record, Applicant believes the now pending claims of the above-captioned application are all in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims and a prompt Notice of Allowance thereon.

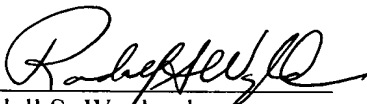
Applicant believes that a 1 month extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Randall S. Wayland at 607-974-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

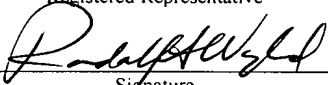
CORNING INCORPORATED

Date: March 24, 2004



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